

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement included in the Office Action mailed March 14, 2008, Applicants elect with traverse Species A allegedly related to the embodiments shown in FIGs 1-3. The Examiner indicated that claim 1-4, 7-8, 10-11 and 13-14 read on Species A. The Examiner states that claims 1 and 3 generic.

Claims 1-14 remain in this application, where claims 5-6, 9 and 12 have been withdrawn by this Amendment.

It is believed that claims 1-14 should all be examined on the merits.

Applicants' traversal is based at least on the fact that identified the embodiments are so closely related that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden.

MPEP § 803 - Restriction - When Proper

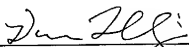
... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Applicants' traversal is based at least on the fact that a search encompassing the embodiments of elected Species A, such as

claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-11 and 13-14, are so closely related to Species B, such as claims 1-6, 9-10 and 12, that the search and examination of Species A, claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-11 and 13-14 necessitates a search of the elements encompassed by Species B associated with claims 1-6, 9-10 and 12. In fact, due to the nature and relationship of the claim elements, a search of the Species A claims will likely encompass prior art related to the Species B claims. Accordingly, a search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of the application on its merits are now respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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